GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:838
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION WORKS
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar;Mistry Shri Madhusudan Devram;Solanki Shri Bhupendrasinh Prabhatsinh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has envisaged any alternative means to meet the demand of States/Union Territories for funds for carrying on compensatory afforestation works;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has introduced "The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill, 2008" in the Lok Sabha on 5th May, 2008, which provides for the establishment of a Fund and crediting thereto the monies received from the user agencies towards compensatory afforestation, additional compensatory afforestation, penal compensatory afforestation, Net Present Value and all other amounts recovered from such agencies under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; constitution of an Authority for administration of the Fund and to utilize the monies so collected for undertaking artificial regeneration (plantations), assisted natural regeneration, protection of forests, infrastructure development, Green India Programme, wildlife protection and other related activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

After creation of the Fund viz. Compensatory Afforestation Fund and operationalisation of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), money will be released to the States and Union Territories including Gujarat.